

***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

We do hereby set forth the principles of the Christian faith as commonly held among us, believing that no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.



'Cause players gonna play, play, play, play, play
And the haters gonna hate, hate, hate, hate, hate
Baby, I'm just gonna shake, shake, shake, shake, shake
I shake it off, I shake it off
~Taylor Swift

July 3, 2016



First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York, 12305
(518) 377-2201
www.1stReformed.com

Welcome to First Reformed Church

We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, activities, and service.

If you are a first time visitor we hope you feel at home here. Please fill out a little white pew card and place it in the offering plate and join us after the service for coffee and refreshments. Stop by a welcome table at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-630-0911

Parking

You may park in **any** of the lots around the church or the Stockade Inn on Sunday mornings.

Need Help?

Large print bulletins and audio receivers are available to assist you. Please ask an usher. Special bulletins for children are also available. Restrooms are located out the front right doorway of the sanctuary.

Elders in Worship

Past and current leaders we call 'Elders' walk in together at the beginning of worship and sit in the front pew. This is to identify them as servants of the mission of the church and make it easy to see who you might talk to about the life of our congregation.

Joining the Congregation

To become a member of the congregation, there is a one-time orientation, a meeting with the governing board, and a reception in worship. If you are interested in the next orientation please fill out a white pew card.

Communion

Our congregation celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of the month. All followers of Christ are invited to share this meal.

Hearing Assistance



We have a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for babies through age four is available from 9:45am until noon in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

Church School

All children in grades K-8 are welcome to join in our Church School activities by leaving immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am upstairs in room 20.

Church School on Communion Sundays

On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) youth in grades 3-8 remain in the service to participate in Communion while those in grades K-2 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for church school activities.

Children's Worship Bulletins

Special bulletins for children, ages 3-6 and 7-12 are available each Sunday. If the ushers are not handing them out, just ask for one.

After Worship

Typically after worship, during the summer months, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting) before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in.

Service Online

A recording of each of our worship services is at 1stReformed.com one or two days following the service.

Lost and Found

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 3, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningly

Solemn Procession George Blake
Antiphon Georg Muffat
Maestoso Catharine Doige

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering

The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN *Come, All You People*
Music: Alexander Gondo, arr. John L Bell

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari;
uyai mose, tinamate Mwari;
uyai mose, tinamate Mwari;
uyai mose zvino.

**Come all you people,
come and praise your Maker;
come all you people,
come and praise your Maker;
come all you people,
come and praise your Maker;
come now and worship the Lord.**

**Come all you people,
come and praise the Savior;
come all you people,
come and praise the Savior;
come all you people,
come and praise the Savior;
come now and worship the Lord.**

**Come all you people,
come and praise the Spirit;
come all you people,
come and praise the Spirit;
come all you people,
come and praise the Spirit;
come now and worship the Lord.**

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God of compassion, we come to you
tired from wrestling with things. We are
empty and broken. Forgive our laziness
and fear, we pray. Give us a new sense of
hope and energy to be the love for the
world you are to us.**

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(*from Our Song of Hope*)

**We hear the Spirit's call
to love one another
opposing discrimination of race or sex,
inviting us to love one another,
and to share at every level
in work and play
in church and state
in marriage and family
and so fulfill the law of Christ.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Gail Blinckmann, soprano

Thou Art God Lionel Bourne

Thou art the peace of all things calm,
The art the place to hide from harm,
Thou art the light that shines in dark,
Thou art the heart's eternal spark,

Thou art the door that's open wide,
Thou art the guest who waits inside,
Thou art the stranger at the door,
Thou art the calling of the poor.

Thou art peace, Thou art calm.

Thou art my love.

Thou art my Lord and with me still,
Thou art my love, keep me from ill,
Thou art the light, the truth, the way.

Thou art my Savior this day,

Thou art my Savior this very day.

FIRST LESSON Brad Lewis
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit
Amen. Galatians 6:1-16 (pg 191)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 (pg71)

SERMON Shake It Off Stacey Midge

*HYMN My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less #379

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Andy Chestnut

Could you?

Words and music by Andy Chestnut

What if God selected you
to speak for him today?
Could you feel it in your heart
to find the words to say?
To talk on the phone
To one alone
Is that something you could do?
Could you share God's love for you?

What if God selected yours
to be his hands to heal?
Could you touch afflicted souls
to ease the pain they feel?
To hold a friend
Nearing the end
As your heart is breaking too
Could you share God's love for you?

We think we're independent
But we're part of the transcendent
Once we take off that blinder
The world is so much kinder
Once we start believing
We also start perceiving
The grace which fills our holes
The God within our souls.
Who gives us strength to dare
To take the risk to share.

What if God selected yours
to be his eyes to see?
Could you trust yourself to visualize
just how the world could be?

And let your spirit grow
To help make it so
Spreading it far and wide
Could you feel his power inside?

*DOXOLOGY #592

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

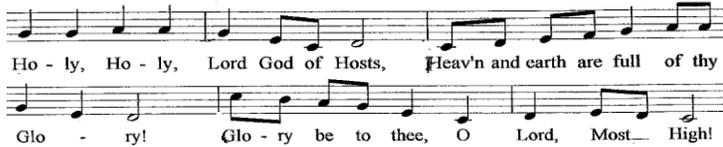
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

SANCTUS (*sung in unison*) Carl Steubing



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy
Glo - ry! Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!

COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN O Jesus, I Have Promised #388

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sicilian Mariners

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

Prayers of the People

Requests for prayer may be noted on a pew card and placed in the offering plate. We pray regularly for those who are ill, those who serve their country, those who hunger, and those who are our enemies. As part of our prayers this morning, we remember with thanksgiving members of our church who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

Marjorie Frick, Belle Kozak, Glenn Winchester, Dorothy Sanderson, Chuck Greskovich, Linda Malgieri

If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death, please contact the church office.

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

A flower calendar is posted on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary wherein you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the church office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Glenn Winchester by his family.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Nat Phipps Trio

July 10: Scott Bassinson, piano

July 17: Peg Delaney Trio

Church School for Summer

There will always be a prepared craft or game activity for the children each Sunday if anyone chooses to attend. We may be meeting upstairs in room 20, Kinderwyk, or outside (weather permitting), but you will always pick up your children in the Kinderwyk Building. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Blythe.

First Forum will resume in the Fall

Forum happens after worship most Sundays at 11:15am in Poling Chapel. Suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact: Amy Brule 785-8201, Peggy King 370-1885, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700

Youth Group Schedule

Our youth group does not meet regularly during the summer months, but stay tuned for special activities to come! If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Stacey at revstacey@gmail.com.

United Prayer Ministry

Prayers for: Carol Troost on the death of her father last week; Linda Van Alstyne and her family for peace and comfort for as she faces death after her long illness.



Summer Refreshments in Huntley Garden

Whenever possible, refreshments after the service will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for helping in Assembly Hall. You will also find an important instruction sheet for summer procedures.

Stephen Ministry Applications Due

This is the last call for applications for those wishing to participate in the upcoming Stephen Ministry Training this fall. If you sense God may be calling to you share in this meaningful opportunity to extend the love of Christ through one-to-one compassionate care of faithful presence, reflective listening, prayerful empathy, then fill out an application (found on the Stephen Ministry bulletin board near the Bookshop) and put it in Rev. Daniel Carlson's mailbox (outside Assembly Hall).

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10am in the home of Ronnie Bartholic, 2305 Almeria Road.

Pocket Prayer Shawls

The Prayer Shawl Group is making pocket prayer shawls designed to fit in a pocket, purse, or backpack and can travel with you. Like a full-sized prayer shawl, the pocket shawl can remind you of God's comfort, support and closeness. Hold this prayer shawl in your hand and be reminded that God is always with you. Pocket prayer shawls will be available on the tables at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office. There is no charge for the shawls.

Kitchen Leftovers

The Assembly Hall kitchen has acquired many a wayward dish, platter, & bowl (we tend to keep any serving spoons which come our way.) Please retrieve your items from a table in Assembly Hall.

The Short-Short Writing Group – July 5

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Short-Shorts are stories, essays, memoirs, or other non-fiction works told in 1,000 words or less. Contact James Gonda for more info, at jgonda12309@gmail.com

Summer Ice Cream Socials at the Levering's House

On some Sunday evenings this summer, Bill and Abby will be hosting a time at their place for ice cream and fellowship. While they are inviting certain folks, come on by if you are bored. We will start at 7pm and be done by dark.

July 10 – Newcomers

Folks who have joined in the last 2 years or who are thinking about it.

July 17 – Youth

Young adults, grades 7–12 and college students are welcome. Parents will be in a separate room.

Summer Playground Dates

on Mondays in Niskayuna –begins July 11

Beginning July 11, we will meet every Monday at 10am until the end of August at Niskayuna's River Road playground for a playground date.

All ages are welcome. There will be refreshments provided, not guaranteed to be healthy but will be nut free. The play date is scheduled for 1 hour. Blythe Czwakiel, our Children's Ministry Director, will be there for any questions and/or suggestions for the Children's Education Program. Please join us for some fun!

Sacred Spaces Gentle Yoga – July 11

This weekly class moved to Mondays. It meets from 6-7:15pm in the Dirck Romeyn room and is open to all levels of practice including those who may be new. Bring a yoga mat and any other props you wish to use. For more info, call Mary LaFountain (225-3240). Cost \$10/class and there are two free slots for FRC members.

Summer Kerygma Conversations-July 13

There's yet room in the circle and a book on the shelf (Dietrich Bonhoeffer's, *Life Together*) for anyone seeking to grow in faith and faithfulness. We meet every other Wednesday of June, July, and August, 9:30-11am, in the Dirck Romeyn room. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate.

Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-July 13

Join us on Wednesday July 13 at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a delicious dinner--the main dish is provided; sides, salads, desserts are invited. A brief contemplative service follows at 7pm, in the quiet of Poling Chapel where we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace. Final summer date: August 10.

Faith Bookshop

If you find it closed, a Bookshop committee member will be glad to help you. Seek out Birdie Blackmer, Bill Clock, Ginny Laumeister or Nancy Wainwright.

Church Library Story Time - July 16

All new this summer, we are pleased to invite you and your children and all of their friends to STORY TIME. On the 3rd Saturday of July and August we will have Story Time in the library with refreshments available for adults and children in Assembly Hall. We will meet in the Library at 10am. Story Time will include either a read, or told story, and access to the Library for book check out.

SICM Summer Lunches at Yates

First Reformed members are needed to volunteer everyday for four weeks in August: the weeks of August 8, 15, 22, and 29. It will take one and a half hours of your time. Please sign up in Assembly Hall or the office. You can do one day, one day a week, each day for one week, or whatever fits your schedule. Questions, contact Ellie Rowland at erowland@nycap.rr.com or 250-4302.

Call For Submissions!

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Deadline for submissions is August 31. Fiction, non-fiction, travel pieces, memoir, all told in 1,000 words or less are acceptable. Submissions may be emailed as a WORD doc to Rudy and Kathy Petersen, Editors-in-Chief, at threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com.

Classis Assessment

You have received a letter about our Classis assessment. We are currently assessed \$93.91 a member to keep the denomination & its mission going. It's a lot, but we don't mind since it keeps us together nationally. It's sort of a franchise fee per member.

Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, and Nov. 9 in 2016. Join three friendly servers at the Salvation Army from 11am-1:30pm. We have fun! Contact Connie Young at 393-7061 or cyoung50@nycap.rr.com.

When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be. When I let go of what I have, I receive what I need.

—Lao Tzu

Letting go means to come to the realization that some people are a part of your history, but not a part of your destiny.

—Steve Maraboli

Suffering is not holding you. You are holding suffering. When you become good at the art of letting sufferings go, then you'll come to realize how unnecessary it was for you to drag those burdens around with you. You'll see that no one else other than you was responsible. The truth is that existence wants your life to become a festival.

—Oslo

There's a trick to the Graceful Exit. It begins with the vision to recognize when a job, a life stage, a relationship is over – and to let go. It means leaving what's over without denying its value.

—Ellen Goodman

The best skill at cards is knowing when to discard.

—Baltasar Gracián

If someone doesn't care to accept you, respect you, believe in you, don't hesitate to move on and let them go. There are many who love and appreciate you just the way you are.

—Amaka Imani Nkosazana

Sunday, July 3

10:00 am Worship/Communion
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, July 4

Office Closed Monday, July 4

**Tuesday, July 5**

10:00 am Morning Prayer
 7:00 pm Short-short Writing Group

Sunday, July 10

10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers
 7:30 pm *Newcomers* Ice Cream Social

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Joan Lindsay and George Trimarco	Joan Lindsay and Bill Martin
Greeters	Martha Winchester	
Flower Delivery	Judy Shopmyer Jeanette and Don Davidson	Lynne Gilgore Doug and Ann Phillips
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Stacey Midge
Processing Elders	Jeanette Davidson, James Gonda, Mary Jewett, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis	Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, Del Pierce, Barbara Walton
Reader	Brad Lewis	Peg Miller
Refreshments	Barbara Walton	Vickie and Mike Horan
Ushers	Del Pierce (head usher), Jim & Sharron McCullough, Carol Troost, Christine Lund	Kip & Joanne Arnold, Adam Kerwin, Alden Brown